

***MICROBIOLOGY CLIENT SERVICES MANUAL***  
**State of Utah Public Health Laboratory**

**LAB TEST – Virology Section**

**TEST** Rabies (animal specimens only)

**METHOD** Fluorescent antibody (FA)

**AVAILABLE** Local health departments or animal control agencies only

**PATIENT PREP** Animal must be euthanized

**SPECIMEN**

Bats = entire animal

Other animals = head only

**COLLECT IN** Leak proof container

**PROCESSING** Keep at 2 to 8 degrees C

**TRANSPORT** On wet ice

**TIME CRITICAL** Must be received in our lab within 72 hrs

**LABEL** Unique identification number, “rabies exam”, and collection date

**REQUISITION** Rabies Test Request Form (see form in Appendix B)

**TEST COMPLETE** Next working day

**RESULTS** Negative or positive for Rabies by FA

**REPORTED** Mail, e-mail, or fax, as established with provider

**NOTE** Testing is not performed on rodents

**CONTACT** Virology section (801)584-8400